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AUTHOR	Sigworth, Oliver; And Others
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ABSTRACT

This conference report on the preparation of junior college English teachers presents programs inaugurated at three schools in the fall of 1969. Offered in a 2-year program at the University of Arizona is the Master of Arts degree in English (M.A.) with an Arizona Junior College Certificate. The University of Nevada's Master of Arts in the Teaching of English (M.A.T.E.) degree, normally requiring 12 months to complete, is also described. Western Washington State College's 8-quarter program leading to the M.A. in English and supported by the Education Professions Development Act (EPDA) is also described. Course requirements are commented on in each of the programs. (RL)

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THE PREPARATION OF JUNIOR COLLEGE ENGLISH TEACHERS: REPORT OF A CONFERENCE AT THE ROCKY MOUNTAIN MODERN LANGUAGE ASSOCIATION IN PROVO, UTAH
11 October 1969

Professor Kenneth Symes, Director of the EPDA Fellowship Program to Prepare Junior College Teachers of English at Western Washington State College, organized an invitational conference of twenty-five departmental representatives from junior colleges and from graduate departments preparing junior college teachers to be held in connection with the annual conference of the Rocky Mountain MLA on Saturday, 11 October 1969.

Oliver Sigworth, Director of the EPDA Program at the University of Arizona, David Hettich, Director of the Program at the University of Nevada at Reno, and Kenneth Symes, Director of the Program at Western Washington, discussed the programs which they had inaugurated in the fall of 1969. Michael Shugrue, English Secretary for the Modern Language Association and Co-Director of the National Junior College English Study, led the group in an evaluation of the three proposals.

Copies of the programs at the three institutions are included as part of this report.

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UNIVERSITY OF ARIZONA

PROGRAM FOR THE M.A. IN ENGLISH WITH

EMPHASIS ON JUNIOR COLLEGE TEACHING

Our program is designed to give graduate students over a two-year course of study special preparation for the actual problems and experiences they may encounter in teaching in the first two years of college. The students will emerge from the program with a standard Master of Arts degree (Major in English), with an Arizona Junior College certificate, and with some intensive preparation and practical experience in three areas of instruction: freshman composition, sophomore literature, and humanities. The degree will be, though in only one sense, a terminal professional degree; but it will also offer the student the opportunity to proceed without loss of time toward a Ph.D. at the University of Arizona if he later so chooses. It is expected that this feature of the program may be of importance in attracting students of high calibre, since they can have a definite professional goal in sight at the end of two years, but at the same time need not hesitate at the thought that there may be no practicable goal beyond.

The curriculum for this program is based on the curriculum for the degree of Master of Arts in English at the University of Arizona, which requires a minimum of 24 units of graduate credit plus six units allowed for the general examination, or a total of 30 units. All these units are taken in strictly graduate courses numbered above 300. The only specifically required course is English 315, literary criticism, but in order to assure a balanced program of study the student must take for graduate credit at least one course in each of seven fields of literature: medieval literature, renaissance drama, renaissance non-dramatic literature, restoration and eighteenth-century literature, nineteenth-century literature, American literature, and twentieth-century British and American literature. However, the M.A. candidate who has taken as an undergraduate two or more one-semester courses in any one of the fields is considered to have satisfied the requirement for that field.

The course of study envisioned for the Junior College program is as follows:

First year	units
English 315 (criticism)	3
Field courses or electives	12
Educational Psychology, Philosophy, or Sociology	3
Secondary Education 359 (The Junior College)	3
Internship in literature	3
	24

Summer session	units
Field courses or electives in literature	6

Second year	
Internship in Humanities	3
Field course or elective	3
English 210 (Teaching of Composition)	3
Internship in composition	3
English 215 (Linguistics), or English 328 (Modern English), or English 399k (Seminar in Linguistics), or English 212 (Teaching of English as a Second Language)	6
	18
Total units:	48

Students will be urged to take electives in language and linguistics.

The internships in literature and humanities will be conducted with the cooperation of the College of Education in lower-division courses at the University of Arizona. Arrangements are in progress whereby the internships in freshman composition may be conducted, at least in part, on one of the junior college campuses.

UNIVERSITY OF NEVADA
RENO LAS VEGAS

DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH
RENO CAMPUS

The following pages contain the description of the Master of Arts for the Teaching of English (MATE) Degree at the University of Nevada. The degree was inaugurated in 1967, and during the academic year 1969-70 we have had our first candidates for the degree.

The first three pages describe in general the requirements for the MATE degree for any student seeking the degree. The remaining pages describe a specific program of the MATE which was submitted to the Office of Education for funding under the EPDA program. The major distinction between the two is that candidates under the EPDA program must take a three-hour practicum which involves them in teaching at the lower division level or in a junior or community college situation.

MATE - EPDA PROGRAM

Curriculum

1. The course of study to be pursued by the fellows in the program for the degree of Master of Arts in the Teaching of English. The purpose of this degree is to train teachers specifically for junior college teaching, and to train teachers of lower-division courses in colleges and universities. The degree encourages relatively broad preparation in language and literature, with special attention to rhetoric, applied linguistics, literary appreciation, and other subjects needed by teachers in basic English courses. While the program will teach an understanding and respect for research, it is not intended to produce specialized research scholars.

The program requires that the fellows be admitted to the graduate school of the University of Nevada. This means that the fellow must have an over-all undergraduate grade point average of 2.5 or higher (on a scale of 4.0) or an average of 3.0 based on the last two years of the undergraduate program. The fellow is also expected to have at least 18 credits in his undergraduate major or at least 18 credits of undergraduate work in courses acceptable to the English Department.

The fellow will receive at the end of his twelve month course of study the MATE degree from the University of Nevada. In fulfilling the requirements for this degree, he will pursue the following graduate courses:

<u>Required Courses</u>: 32 hours

English 911 - Introduction to Graduate Study 3 credits

This course will introduce the fellows to modern techniques in language and literature, to the preparation and presentation of documented investigation, to scholarly method, to bibliography, and to major reference tools.

English 937 - College Teaching in Language & Literature 6 hours

This course will present for 3 hours of credit the theory of teaching English in college and junior college, particularly the first and second year courses. In a second 3 hour course (practicum), presented with the help of and in cooperation with the College of Education and cooperating junior and community colleges, the student will be given practical experience in teaching first and second year college level English courses. In this second course, the participant will be under the direct supervision of the English Department staff and the faculty of the College of Education (See Item 3 below.)

English 996 - MATE Paper 2 hours

The fellow will submit a paper to his departmental advisory committee to satisfy the writing requirement for the MATE degree. The paper must represent superior work appropriate to advanced study; it may be a research report, serious criticism, editing, consideration of a professional problem, preparation of textbook or curricular materials, or creative writing.

English 913 - Problems in Language or

English 914 - Problems in Modern Grammatical Study 3 credits

These courses serve as an introduction to and an examination of important current grammatical descriptions, especially of English. The courses present advanced study of language on the basis of a sequence of problems involving such subjects as the history of language, etymology, semantics, structural linguistics and linguistic geography. Attention will be given to current language problems such as non-standard English and the language of the disadvantaged.

English 933 - History and Principles of Rhetoric 3 credits

This course will deal with the development of theories of effective expression in language, with attention to practical problems of writing and the teaching of writing. Attention will be given here to problems of non-standard dialect.

English 923 - Problems in Themes and Ideas in Literature 3 credits

This course will deal with the typical problems in the development of themes and ideas in literature and an introduction to broad literary approaches like comparative literature and the history of ideas. Attention will be given to contemporary literature and Afro-American literature.

The fellow will be expected to have had graduate or undergraduate courses in at least the following: Chaucer, Shakespeare, American literature, and Modern literature (12 hours). If he has not had work in these areas, he will be expected to pick up such courses; if he has had work in these areas, he will be allowed to use 12 hours for elective work in literature or language.

Elective Hours: 3 hours (see preceding paragraph)

The candidate may choose from among the following courses:

Education 901-History and Philosophy of Education
Education 907-Modern Technology in Education
Education 911-Comparative Education
Education 952-Seminar in College Teaching or an additional 3 hours of elective graduate work in the Department of English

The candidate will be expected to pass both written and oral examinations which will be broad in nature and which will cover the materials of his undergraduate and graduate work in English.

2. The fellows will gain their research experience not only in English 911, Introduction to Graduate Study, but also in the individual courses which they will take in the subject field of English. Specific attention will be given to the problems of teaching at the junior college level in English 937 and in the practicum. The Graduate courses generally demand advanced research and the presentation of such research in seminar reports.

3. The program for the MATE degree is designed specifically to train teachers for junior college work and for lower division work in colleges and universities. One half (3 hours) of English 937 will give the fellow practical experience in the classroom. In cooperation with community colleges, junior colleges, and the Nevada Technical Institute, fellows will teach two sections of freshman and/or sophomore English during a six week summer session. Working in close cooperation with the faculties of the English Department and the College of Education, the fellows will work out a syllabus, select appropriate textbooks, and project a course of study for basic English courses as they are taught at the cooperating institutions. The fellows will be under the direct supervision of the director of this program and selected faculty members of the College of Education. The purpose of this training is to prepare the fellow for the kinds of problems he will encounter in the community and/or junior colleges.

4. While this program is not designed specifically to prepare higher education personnel to work with the disadvantaged, the courses pursued by the fellows will contain units and information dealing with the literature and language problems of the disadvantaged. These materials are such units as a consideration of non-standard dialects, Afro-American literature, and the problems that the disadvantaged have when they enroll in a junior college.

THE MASTER OF ARTS FOR THE TEACHING OF ENGLISH

The Master of Arts for the Teaching of English degree is designed to train teachers for junior college and lower division college and university work. The program is designed so that well qualified students may complete all requirements for the degree in one calendar year (two semesters and two six-week summer sessions).

A candidate for the MATE degree is required to complete a minimum of 33 credits of course work carrying graduate credit and 2 credits allowed for the MATE paper. A minimum of 21 credits for the MATE degree must be earned in residence. A minimum of 18 credits, including the 2 credits for the MATE paper, in courses numbered 900 or above is required for all candidates. Not more than 9 credits applicable to the approved program of study may be transferred from another institution. All requirements for the MATE degree must be satisfied within the period of six calendar years immediately preceding the granting of the degree.

In addition to the preceding requirements, the candidate will be required to:

(1) Demonstrate proficiency in teaching. Successful teaching experience for a period of one year may be accepted as meeting this requirement. Completion of a professional education sequence at either secondary or elementary level may also be accepted. Candidates who have not so demonstrated teaching proficiency will be required to complete one of the following or the equivalent: English 937, College Teaching in Language and Literature; Education 952, Seminar in College Teaching; Internship in Teaching on the College Level.

(2) Submit at least one graduate course in each of the following areas, unless the requirement for any given area is waived by the Graduate Studies Committee: language and linguistics, composition and rhetoric, and comparative and general approaches to literature. That is, normally the following courses will be required except for students who present strong backgrounds in the subject involved: English 913 or 914; English 933; and English 923.

(3) Submit at least one undergraduate or graduate course in each of the following: Chaucer, Shakespeare, American Literature, and Modern literature.

(4) Submit a paper acceptable to the Department in fulfillment of the writing requirement. The paper need not be a report of research, but must represent superior work appropriate to an advanced study. The paper may be a research report, serious criticism, editing, consideration of a professional problem, preparation of textbook or curricular materials, or creative writing. The paper may be written specifically for the final examination or it may be a careful revision and expansion of a paper previously written in connection with a course.

(5) Pass written and oral examinations on English and American literature and language.

Approval of Program. The program of studies for each MATE student, including the paper submitted in fulfillment of the writing requirement and the courses acceptable toward the degree, are determined by the student's adviser, the department head, and the advisory committee. Soon after its appointment, the advisory committee meets with the student who presents the proposed program of study. This lists by name and number all the courses to be presented in fulfilling requirements for the degree and includes a short description of the paper to be submitted in fulfillment of the writing requirement. The committee then approves the program as presented or recommends additions or substitutions which, in its judgment, will strengthen the program. Final approval is by the Graduate Dean. Subsequent changes may be made at any time, but only with the approval of the committee. Sufficient copies of the approved program are required to supply the student, committee members, department head, and the graduate office.

Admission to Candidacy. No student entering graduate work is admitted to candidacy at the time of his first registration. At any time, however, after he had completed 10 credits of graduate work, a student may apply for admission to candidacy for the MATE degree, using forms available in the Graduate Office which require approval of the adviser, Chairman of the Department of English, and the Dean of the Graduate School. Admission to candidacy for students in the MATE program requires the following:

(1) A B average in all graduate work taken prior to admission to candidacy.

(2) Formal approval of the student's advisory committee for his program of study, including his approach to the paper to be submitted in fulfillment of the writing requirement.

(3) A satisfactory score on the Graduate Record Examination, aptitude and advanced tests.

Written Examination. The candidate for the MATE degree will be required to pass a common written examination of four hours duration, plus one hour's grace, prepared and evaluated by a committee of faculty members appointed by the Chairman of the Department of English.

This examination will consist of questions designed to test the student's knowledge of English and American literature, comparative and general approaches to literature, language and linguistics, and composition and rhetoric.

The written examination will normally be given three times a year: (1) during the first full week following final examinations for the spring semester; (2) during the first full week following final examinations for the first summer session; (3) during the first full week following final examinations for the second summer session. The student will apply to the Director of Graduate Studies, who will determine from the candidate's committee if he is ready to take the examination at the next scheduled time. The chairman of the candidate's committee will report the results of the examination to the Dean of the Graduate School and to the Director of Graduate Studies. The written examination may be repeated once, but at least one semester or summer session must elapse between the attempts.

Final Oral Examination. An oral examination, to be conducted by the chairman of the candidate's advisory and examining committee will be held not earlier than one week and not later than two weeks following successful completion of the written examination. The examination will be based on the candidate's reading, his course work, and the paper he submits in fulfillment of the writing requirement.

A unanimously favorable decision of the examining committee on the examination and the paper submitted in fulfillment of the writing requirement is required. The final oral examination may be repeated once, but at least one semester or summer session must elapse between the attempts.

Transfer from the MATE to the M.A. or Ph.D. Program. Since entrance requirements are the same for the two programs, MATE students may transfer to the M.A. program. However, once a student has transferred to the M.A. program, he becomes responsible for meeting all requirements of that program, including satisfaction of the foreign language requirement before accumulating more than 15 credits of graduate work. Requests for transfer should originate with the Director of Graduate Studies.

MATE students who wish to be considered for transfer to the Ph.D. program must meet all M.A. requirements for eligibility to transfer from the M.A. to the Ph.D. program. For details, see The Master of Arts in English program.

WESTERN WASHINGTON STATE COLLEGE

EPDA GRANT TO TRAIN COMMUNITY COLLEGE TEACHERS OF ENGLISH

Western's grant begins Fall Quarter, 1969, and concludes at the end of Summer Quarter, 1971. The Master of Arts in English will be awarded to those who complete the program. The main features of Western's eight quarter program follow:

Tutorial and Interning Experiences:

Each EPDA fellow will be assigned to an experienced teacher of composition all six quarters that he is in residence at Western. This fall, for example, each fellow is helping teach the Macrorie composition method. He will begin by reading papers and by holding conferences with individual students. Eventually the fellow will handle small discussion groups. At the end of the quarter each will conduct some sessions of a class. We hope to vary this experience so that one quarter, for example, the fellow gets a chance to work in our Writers Workshop where we work individually with students who have special writing problems and so that another quarter he gets to work in a freshman world literature course that includes composition.

The major feature of our program is internship. Each fellow will spend one quarter interning in a community college each of his two years at Western. The fellow will have full charge of his two courses but will work with a community college instructor who has released time to supervise him.

Curriculum:

The EPDA fellow will complete Western's MA in English which includes a seminar in teaching college composition; 45 hours of English courses; reading competency in one foreign language; passing a comprehensive examination in English and American literature; and a creative writing or critical thesis.

Each quarter at Western the fellow will also take an EPDA seminar for one credit. The main emphasis here will be on the teaching of community college English although he will have a chance to see the range of community college problems from advisement through transfer programs by visiting campuses and by meeting personnel from these schools.

Candidates:

At a meeting at Western in the spring of 1969, community college chairmen of departments of English helped us outline the criteria for selecting fellows: a person capable of performing well in a conventional MA program; a person with considerable flexibility, i.e. one able to teach at various levels of difficulty that range from remedial courses in writing through transfer courses in literature; a person willing to spend much of the rest of his life reading compositions.